

Rose City Reporter

MARCH 2021

Annual Meeting

Wednesday, March 10th, 2021 10:00 – 11:30

Brought to you by Zoom in the comfort of your home!

Please join us for the Portland Branch 2020-21 Annual Meeting to elect officers for the new program year.

Our speakers this year will focus our attention on the Portland Community College recipients. Barbara Spencer, Portland Branch Scholarships Chair, will lead a discussion with Teri Patapoff, Major Gifts Officer at the PCC Foundation, about our scholarship program and our scholarship recipients for this program year.

Following the presentation, Co-Presidents Katie Raetz and Susan Marthens will conduct our membership meeting which includes reports from program officers and committee chairs. Members will elect branch officers, as well as delegates to the State Convention which takes place in April.

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When you read our newsletter this month the list of nominees for branch officers will be listed. Susan and I want to take this opportunity to pull back the curtain on all the very hard work that went into putting this list together.

Lisa Perrine led the process from knowing in November that a committee was needed and worked hard to put together the nominating committee. Women who have already given time in the past for this stepped up again. The next important step was making phone calls to members asking if they would consider taking a leadership position. She did not do this job alone, but she **absolutely** owned it. Diane Winn, Kathe Hart, Linda Stern, and Ginny McQueen were the other hardworking members of the nominating committee.

The bottom line in this process is that their efforts allow us to continue as an AAUW Branch. Our Mission and Vision won't go dark. We continue to enjoy the friendships made and cultivated in our study / interest groups.

Please know there are positions unfilled. We have not been able to fill the position of President elect. This position may be shared, and past occupants stand ready to help, advise, and support. Time and again we have turned to our forward leaning board members and/or past officers to help—but it is time for more members to participate. This branch exists for **all of us**—to work together to fulfill the AAUW mission and enjoy our interest groups—and we need more branch members—**that is you, the people reading this**—to participate. If you have a friend you can work with and recognize **it is your turn**, please contact Lisa Perrine or any board member.

Katie Raetz, co-President

Susan Marthens, co-President

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I NEED YOUR HELP EMAILING LETTERS OF SUPPORT FOR AAUW OF OR's # 1 PRIORITY BILLS TO THE RELEVANT COMMITTEES — NOW!!!

This may seem confusing — although I surely hope not!! — but our two priority bills are scheduled to be heard in Committee soon. I usually try and separate out my requests for your help, but no can do this time. You may have heard of the expression “hurry to wait,” but this is “wait to hurry!!” All the info you will need to complete your letters of support is set out below.

This said, we need to have the bill schedules officially published in the Oregon Legislative Information Service (<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2021R1>) BEFORE you can actually send in the testimony. I will send you an email when that takes place. Here are the two bills:

1. Age Discrimination Task Force Bill (House Bill 2938):

DEADLINE TO FILE LETTERS / TESTIMONY: Monday, February 15, 2021 — If this date changes, I will let you know ASAP, but I expect I'll be sending you an email asking you to send it in later this week.

COMMITTEE: House Business and Labor

THE BILL does what it says — sets up a Task Force to study age discrimination in the workplace. We anticipate this Task Force will tee us up to introduce and pass a bill in the 2022 Session detailing what employers and employees actually need to do to combat age discrimination.

2. Corporate Diversity Bill (House Bill 3110):

DEADLINE TO FILE LETTERS / TESTIMONY: TBA, but will be in week of February 22 or March 1st.

COMMITTEE: House Rules

THE BILL requires publicly traded corporations doing business in Oregon to have a minimum number of women and people from underrepresented communities on their boards of directors.

YOUR ASSIGNMENT!!!

Age Discrimination Task Force Bill: Prepare and email letter / testimony to the House Business and Labor Committee to be submitted by February 15th (but wait for my email telling you it's time to send it in).

Corporate Diversity Bill: Prepare and email letter / testimony to the House Rules Committee. I will let you know the exact date this bill will be heard, but now is the time to prepare your email in support.

I have attached copies of each bill and supporting info about them below my signature. Make sure and check out the article from the *Portland Business Journal* regarding the corporate diversity bill!

HOW TO FILE TESTIMONY FOR AGE DISCRIMINATION TASK FORCE BILL

STEP ONE: Prepare your letter / testimony in support of the bill. I use the words “letter” and “testimony” interchangeably — legislators use the word “testimony” but “letter” is fine. Mention you are a member of AAUW of OR. Keep it brief. The more personal you make it, the better. Write in your city below your signature but don’t add any additional personal information on the letter. Don’t include your phone number.

STEP TWO: Save your letter in a PDF format. That’s easy - choose the “Save As” option in “File.” You will see a box with the title “File Format.” Use the up-down arrows and it will take you a “PDF” format. Choose that and you’ll have a PDF format of your letter on your Desktop.

STEP THREE: On your computer, choose <https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2021R1/Testimony/HBL>.

STEP FOUR: You are now on the Testimony Submission Form page. The “Choose a Committee” should already say “House Committee on Business and Labor.” You’ll need to select a meeting date and time by using the blue arrows

STEP FIVE: Choose HB 2938. Enter on your first and last name, email address, AAUW of Oregon as the “Organization” or the City of Residence. Check the “support” position. Check “Upload a PDF.” The “Document Title” will already say “Testimony,” which is fine. Select the PDF file from your desktop. Check the “I’m not a robot” box” and hit “Submit.”

POSSIBLE LANGUAGE FOR LETTER REGARDING AGE DISCRIMINATION TASK FORCE BILL

Older employees bring proven job and leadership experience to the workplace. They deserve full and equal access to employment opportunities like everyone else. Unfortunately it is an unfortunate fact today that workplace discrimination based on age is so routinely practiced that it has become acceptable, and a part of everyday reality. That’s not right.

Age discrimination also especially hurts women, who may have gaps in their employment history due to child raising or caregiving and are already at retirement security risk.

HOW TO FILE TESTIMONY FOR CORPORATE DIVERSITY BILL

You follow the same procedure as with the age discrimination task force bill, BUT: (1) the Committee the bill is being heard by is the House Rules Committee so the address to email in your letter is: <https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2021R1/Committees/HRULES/Overview>, (2) the bill number is HB 3110.

POSSIBLE LANGUAGE FOR LETTER REGARDING CORPORATE BOARD DIVERSITY

Most corporate boards are populated by white men. As late as 2018, 61% of Fortune 100 boards were comprised of white men, as opposed to 19% white women, 6% minority women, and 14% minority men. Oregon’s largest publicly traded companies show an average of only 21% of board seats were held by women in 2019.

Most corporations claim they honor diversity, but statistics paint another picture. The argument that there aren’t enough “qualified” women and people of color to serve on corporate boards is not only factually inaccurate, but offensive. A critical mass of diverse corporate board members creates an environment where people are no longer viewed as outsiders and ensures their viewpoints are valued. No more “check the box” mentality for choosing our business leaders. Maintaining glass ceilings at the top — which are really made of concrete — reinforces a system that seeks to “put people in their place” throughout our entire socio-economic structure.

SO - IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, just let me know!! If you are having trouble with the PDF formatting or sending in your testimony, send it to me and I'll file it for you,

Here's to AAUW of OR Public Policy at work!!!

Trish

Trish Garner, J.D., M.S.W.

State Public Policy Chair, AAUW of OR

American Association of University Women of Oregon

(she / her / ella)

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Report of the Nominating Committee

By Lisa Perrine

The AAUW Nominating Committee has been very active during January and early February. Our committee includes the following: Lisa Perrine (chair), Kathe Hart, Linda Stern, Ginny McQueen, and Diane Winn. We have been attempting to fill four elected offices for the Board of Directors, to serve in the 2021 – 2022-time frame, along with finding someone to be responsible for each of two appointed offices. The elected offices we have been working to fill include the following: President Elect, Membership VP, Study Group VP and Director-at-Large. One of the appointed offices is for someone to be our new By Laws chairperson. The other soon-to-be-vacant appointed office is someone to organize our STEM volunteers.

The election of officers for the term beginning in July is to be held next month at our Annual Meeting on March 10. Please plan to attend this important meeting (on Zoom) and offer your support to the board members with your vote. The following members have agreed to stand for the offices mentioned above:

President Elect: open; still hoping for a volunteer

Membership VP: Ginny McQueen

Study Group VP: Ellen Silverman

Director-at-Large: Mary Finneran

By Laws Chair: Nancy Thomas

STEM Chair: Lisa Perrine

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Communication Committee Update By Nancy Cheverton

Did you know that our Portland Branch has a presence on social media??? We've had our Facebook page up and running for a few years but we just recently rolled out our branch Instagram account. Social media sites are important to our organization - our branch values, mission, and activities reach a broader audience that we might not normally reach which, in turn, may motivate people to want to learn more about us and perhaps even become a branch member.

The Communication Team is responsible for maintaining and monitoring these sites but we couldn't do it without a few other members of our branch including Barbara Spencer, Katie Raitz, Joyce Kligman and Ilga Ross - thank you to all!

You may have noticed the icons at the end of our email communications and wondered about them. They are direct links to our Facebook and Instagram pages, our website and a link to email us with questions, comments, etc.

So, here's my ask of all of you - click on the icons in your email newsletter to check out both our Facebook and Instagram pages and give us a like or follow us and then let other people outside of our branch know we are out there. We have a lot to be proud of in our branch so let's tell everyone about us!

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ZOOMING IN ON STEM EDUCATION A VIRTUAL HAPPY HOUR OF DISCOVERY

Due to COVID, the Saturday Academy is hosting a Virtual Webinar in lieu of Saturday Academy's Discover Luncheon at the Portland Zoo.

On March 11, 2021, we will meet our friends and supporters online for our annual fundraiser to celebrate our accomplishments over the past year.

"We, at the Saturday Academy, offer unique experiences that are not readily available elsewhere, and this year we managed to do so in the most challenging of circumstances. At the event we will celebrate our pivot from in-person to online classes, camps and internships. We will "Zoom In" on STEM education and Saturday Academy by providing updates on our work and a sampling of our highly engaging online Microscopy Class taught by AAUW Portland member, Barbara Miner."

WHEN: Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 5 pm (or join us at 4:50 pm when a Saturday Academy chemist/mixologist stirs up our signature Discovery cocktail)

WHERE: Virtual webinar-link will be sent to your email at a later date to registered participants

RSVP DEADLINE March 1, 2021

COST: Free or \$25 for pre-event box shipped or delivered to your home

For more information and to purchase tickets go to:

saturdayacademy.org/discovery-event-2021

ABOUT THE EVENT

The event with microscopy demonstration is free, but if you would like to receive a foldscope (microscope) and samples to view during the event, along with dessert and the recipe for the Virtual Happy Hour of Discovery cocktail you can purchase a ticket for \$25 and we will deliver or ship a pre-event box to your home.

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MARCH 2021 Study Groups

Breakfast in Bridgetown (open)
Second Thursday, 9 am, unless otherwise stated
Group on hiatus

Current Affairs (open)
Second Tuesdays, 12 noon
Date: March 9
Zoom meeting
Contact: Sue Thomas, 503-427-0403, sueonoak@comcast.net

Curtain Call (open)
Group on hiatus
Contact: Kathe Hart, 503-372-6338, kathehart@hotmail.com

First Tuesday Reader's Theatre (open)
Group on hiatus
Contact: Judy Holt, 503-378-5602, jholt58@gmail.com

International Lunch Group (open)
Group on hiatus
Contact: Petie Padden, 503-235-0892, petiepad@icloud.com

Literary Comments and Criticism (open)
Fourth Thursday, 11:30 am
Date: March 25
Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson
Zoom meeting
Contact: Petie Padden, 503-235-0892, petiepad@icloud.com

Mahjong (open)
Beginning mahjong lessons
Currently on hiatus
Contact: Mary Shaw, 503-939-4589, docsu@hotmail.com
Modern Fiction (open)
Fourth Tuesdays, 11:30 AM

Date: March 23

The Art Forger by B.A. Shapiro

Zoom meeting

Contact: Nancy Thomas, 503-201-4420, nmthomas@teleport.com

Movie Mavens (open)

Group on hiatus

Contact: Suzanne Fleming, 714-898-6456, multiteach@aol.com or
Karn Hill, 503-206-8444, karnhill2@gmail.com

Non-Fiction Book Group I

Third Wednesdays, 10 am

Date: March 17

The Ship of Dreams: The Sinking of the Titanic by Gareth Russell

Zoom meeting

Contact: Kathe Hart, 503-372-6338, kathehart@hotmail.com

Non-Fiction Book Group II (open)

Third Fridays, 7pm

Date: March 19

Caste by Isabel Wilkerson

Zoom meeting

Contact: Kathe Hart, 503-372-6338, kathehart@hotmail.com

Overbooked

Second Tuesdays, 10 am

Date: March 9

The Other Americans by Laila Lalami

Zoom meeting

Contact: Linda Stern, 503-232-5637, lindamstern@comcast.net

Sleuth Sisters (open)

Fourth Wednesdays, 12 noon

Date: March 24

The Silver Pigs by Lindsey Davis

Zoom meeting

Contact Carla Huegli, 503-457-6145 or cshuegli27@gmail.com

Wimpy Walkers (open)

First Saturdays, 10 am

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Portland AAUW Branch Newsletter

Date: March 6, 10-11:30 am

Ladd's Addition. This National Register Historic District is Oregon's oldest planned community. This walk will be mostly flat on paved sidewalks.

Meet at SE 12th and SE Harrison. Street parking nearby.

NOTE: Each walk limited to 6 walkers; RSVP required

Contact: Diane Winn, 714-470-4526, dgwinn@uci.edu, or Joyce Kligman, 503-309-3185, joycekligman1@gmail.com

